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Application No. 10/078,816 2 of 4
Reply dated 25 September 2007
Responsive to Office Action mailed on 19 July 2007

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following complete set of claims replaces the previous set of claims.

Claims 1-34 (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Presented) A disposable diaper comprising:
a liquid pervious topsheet;
a liquid impervious backsheet;
an absorbent core positioned between the topsheet and the backsheet; and
a dehydration indicator comprising a chemical indicating composition providing a visible signal indicative of a level of dehydration in response to an ionic strength of urine exuded into the diaper by a wearer, the dehydration indicator further comprising an alphanumeric character indicative of the level of dehydration,
wherein the chemical indicating composition is covered on the entirety of its wearer-facing surface by a semipermeable membrane formed of cellulose acetate, cellulose diacetate, cellulose triacetate, agar acetate, beta glucan acetate, polymeric epoxides, semipermeable polyurethanes, or semipermeable polyglycolic acid.

36. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper of Claim 35 further comprising a fluid transport element in fluid communication with the dehydration indicator and serving to transport the urine to the dehydration indicator.

Claims 37-41 (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper of Claim 35 wherein the visible signal is provided only when the ionic strength exceeds a predetermined threshold.

43. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper of Claim 35 wherein the visible signal appears as a colored shape juxtaposed with the alphanumeric character.

Application No. 10/078,816 3 of 4
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44. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper of Claim 35 further comprising a fluid transport element in fluid communication with the dehydration indicator and serving to transport the urine to the dehydration indicator.